



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

Volume 7

Issue 5

November 1995

Officers 1995

Commodore

John Hancock
(Aquia Harbour)

Vice Commodore

Penny DeMarco
(National Potomac)

Rear Commodore

Bud Clark
(Tantallon)

Secretary

Ineke Lavoie
(National Potomac)

Treasurer

Harriet Douglas
(District)

Immediate Past Commodore

Ned W. Rhodes
(Occoquan)

Members-At-Large

Steve Wexler
(Occoquan)

Mark Viehoever
(Washington)

Steve Donock
(Mount Vernon)

From The Commodore

John Hancock

As we wrap-up (pun intended with the cold weather upon us) another boating season, we look back with many fond memories of our various float and shore activities. Starting with our Safety Day at Mount Vernon YC, our blessing of the fleet in Washington and the great pre-blessing party hosted by National Potomac YC at Columbia Island, the "hot" but most enjoyable Float-In at Fort Washington, and the End of Summer Party hosted by Tantallon YC, to list only our largest events. This year can be viewed, in many respects, as a "Banner" year for the PRYCA. The PRYCA organizational structure has truly blossomed with extremely active committees comprised not only of Bridge members but also dedicated hard workers from our member clubs. Their efforts have resulted in a rewrite of the by-laws, the first-time establishment of an operating budget, a new membership package, and a PRYCA Boat Roster, to name but a few of the products produced.

On this the eve of our twenty-fifth anniversary, the PRYCA has truly come of age. Now with fifteen member clubs representing thousands of recreational boaters, and growing as you read this article, we have and will continue to make an impact on legislative issues as well. Our voice has been heard not only on the Potomac River but in the entire Chesapeake Bay area. This year has seen the establishment of a special arrangement with the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) which should further foster our position on legislative issues which effect us all. No, we are not a political action committee (PAC), but we do see a need to represent the interests of recreational boaters on various legislation surfacing at both

the national and state levels. We must remain safe boaters paying our fair share, but we should not be unduly regulated and taxed. The PRYCA serves you to ensure your voice is heard on pending legislation.

So as we plan for the winter ahead, mark your calendars for the January 1996 Change of Command Dinner-Dance where we can honor the 1995 Bridge who made this all possible, and lend our support and voice to the 1996 Bridge as they are installed. Tribute will also be paid to all of you for your continued support. We have been blessed with another safe and enjoyable boating season that deserves celebration in PRYCA tradition. On behalf of my family, both the Hancocks and the PRYCA Bridge, we wish you joyous Holidays and a prosperous New Year!

From the Vice Commodore

Penny DeMarco

As we are coming to the end of another very successful PRYCA year, its time to look forward to 1996 while still relishing the memories of the 1995 events. At his very first Board meeting as Commodore, John Hancock came with a set of goals and objectives for 1995. The Board agreed with John and these were adopted. I know that John will go over the specifics, but I'm proud to have served with John and to help the association accomplish these goals and objectives.

We are starting now to think about 1996! It is a very important year for PRYCA as we will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of our inception. We hope to make the year very special, honoring our past and planning for the future. As part of the celebration, PC Dave Goodman is preparing a history of PRYCA. Once Dave's draft is completed, we will ask other PCs to review it and add to it. When complete, we

will distribute it to all our Member Clubs.

We are also trying to track down as many of the past Officers of PRYCA as we can. Secretary Ineke Lavoie has sent information to as many of the PCs as we have addresses for and asked for input. We are hoping that we have a large turnout of past officers at 1996 events, in particular the Change of Watch on January 27th. If you can assist Ineke in the search for past officers, please give her a call at 703-243-6933.

Speaking of the Change of Watch, I know that RC Bud Clark has prepared an invitation/announcement which is printed elsewhere in this newsletter. PLEASE PLAN TO COME! I have asked PC Marsha Crossley-Cromwell to be the Mistress of Ceremony for the event and am very pleased to report that she has accepted. I know that many of you enjoyed seeing Marsha again at the Float In. We had missed her at PRYCA events in recent years.

I'm still looking for ideas for the 25th. Can you think of special events we should plan, special commemorative items to add to our supplies stock, etc, etc. What do you want to do? Please let me or another member of the 1996 Board of Directors know.

Qualifications Committee Chair Report

Another of my assigned roles this year has been the Chair of the Qualification Committee. John's goal for us in this area was the addition of two new Member Clubs in 1995. John had already seen to it that we would have one new Member Club (Ft. Washington Boating Association was voted in at the Change of Watch in January), so my job was made easier. Thanks to Occoquan Yacht Club, we will be voting on the second new mem-

ber Club at the November Delegates Meeting. Quantico Yacht Club has submitted a membership application, which has been reviewed by the Qualifications Committee and found to be acceptable according to our Constitution and By-Laws, the required announcement has been sent to all Member Clubs, and no comments have been received. Thus, it is in order to call for the vote of the Delegates present at the November Delegates Meeting for acceptance of Quantico YC as a Member Club of PRYCA. This will bring our membership up to 16 clubs!

CBYCA Report

Commodore Hancock has appointed me as the PRYCA liaison to the CBYCA Board of Governors. Although PRYCA and CBYCA have worked closely together in the past, another of John's goals for the year was the formalization of cooperation between the two associations. This action was initiated by PRYCA and the CBYCA Board of Governors agreed to it. As many of you are aware, both John and I are voting members of the CBYCA Board of Governors as well as PRYCA's Board. John and I are also voting members of the CBYCA Board for 1996. (John is the Rear Commodore Elect and I am the Qualifications Officer Elect). This should ensure continued close cooperation between CBYCA and PRYCA in 1996.

The 1996 CBYCA Commodore Elect is Harry Seeback from Chesapeake Yacht Club. Harry is a resident of our area (Bethesda, MD) so we hope to see him at some of our events in 1996. Because of the close proximity, you should consider attending his Commodores Ball which will be held on December 9, 1995 at the University of Maryland in College

Park. John and I would love to see some PRYCA faces there.

CBYCA expects 1996 to be a very active year for legislation of interest to recreational boaters. We will keep you informed and may be asking you to sharpen your pencils, fill you pens with ink, make sure you have toner or ink in your printers, and write some letters to your elected representatives on Capitol Hill or in Richmond, Annapolis, or the District Building. Remember it is a two-way street. Please inform us of any boating related issues you hear about, too.

From The Rear Commodore

Bud Clark

A Fabulous Fall on the Water

It seems like just yesterday that we were coming out of the winter doldrums and starting our boating season in the various clubs. There was the Marine Safety and Operations Event at Mt. Vernon Yacht Club—a lovely location on the water. And who can forget the grand and glorious Float-In at Ft. Washington—and how we all had a great time although the temperature was just a wee bit warm, even for Washington in July. We anticipated fall with the End-of-Summer Party at Tantallon—the highlights were the magnificent nautical skills of the semi-submerged canoe racers and the fully-submerged individuals in the dunk tank. And now the frostbite cruises and fall are upon us; this time of year is so nice that it deserves a special comment.

The Potomac River Yacht Clubs are located in some of the most beautiful areas on earth. A reminder of this was a Columbus Day cruise to Aquia Creek. Tantallon Yacht Club was visiting Landmark Yacht Club; Occoquan



Yacht Club was visiting a marina just a little way up Aquia Creek (as was National Potomac Yacht Club, I think, and perhaps others as well), and boats from Aquia Harbor Yacht Club were passing through the area from time to time. The weather was clear—warm in the sunshine and crisp in the evenings. The scene shared by all was blue skies, tranquil waters and colorful trees on the far shore. Also shared was comradeship among our clubs, their members and friends—sometimes face to face and sometimes over the radio. Truly a perfect way to spend a fall day—with pleasant company, in our favorite recreation.

Another memorable scene took place later that same weekend on a moonlit return from Fairview Beach to Aquia Creek. Four fast boats, led by one of our local captains who knows the area well, were moving at night into the entrance of Aquia Creek. As you enter the creek, the channel requires a sweeping 180 degree turn. So under a full moon on a perfectly clear night, these boats were running at speed as they made the turn so that they and their wakes were fully lighted by the moon. It was a study in nautical shades, shadows and silver that made your heart miss a beat.

The final scene was a few weeks later just south of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge as the sun was setting. The sky was a diamond blue and clear, except for a light layer of stratus clouds to the northwest interspersed with the contrails of airliners passing through the area. Were you looking west at the proper moment, you could see this sunset from anywhere in the Washington area, but only if you could see through the trees and buildings. From the water on the Potomac, it was there before you in full color, looking like an illustration for some science-fiction scene of a far off planet in some

other universe. Vivid blue sky with the cloud colors changing from yellow to orange to an indescribable cerise-pink, as the pattern of clouds and contrails moved through the skies. Although it only lasted for a few moments, it was a glorious! And then it changed to darker colors, just as our 1995 boating season is fading away to the greys of winter.

Well, these scenes are offered as a seasons-end reminder of how fortunate we are to be where we are and of the beauties that make all of us love our water world so much.

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association Activities

For all of us that attended, the End-of-Summer Party was a really great event. Following established tradition, it rained for the third year in a row; some people may think that the rain was an accident, but I can tell you that to pick the only rainy day in six weeks of drought requires some very serious advanced planning. Everyone enjoyed the sporting events; the food was great and the band just right. Thanks to Tantallon for hosting this popular event. By acclamation, the canoe races and dunk tank are to be repeated in 1996, but don't get the idea that our members are all wet! Just so you and your clubs can plan ahead, the PRYCA intends to sponsor the same event next year, but one week later, on 21-22 September 1996, so as to avoid a potential conflict with religious events.

Closer at hand, the next major event is the PRYCA Change of Watch Dinner-Dance which will be held on Saturday evening, 27 January 1996 at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Alexandria. The Inn is located on First Street, just off the George Washington Parkway in the north end of Old Town Alexandria. This is a new location, but

one which promises to be very nice. There will be the usual cocktails available, a varied menu (hors d'oeuvres, plus roast beef, grilled flounder or chicken) and the same super band (The Wright Touch) we enjoyed last year. For anyone that would like to stay overnight, there will be a special rate at the Old Colony Inn. We are celebrating 25 years of the Potomac Yacht Clubs Association, so plan now to attend; it promises to be a great party! An invitation with detailed information is enclosed.

Computers on Your Boat

What with all the publicity on Internet, the World-Wide Web, Windows 95, and PowerPC (to mention just a few), one might think that the computer freaks are taking over the world. Well, not quite; but the fact is that computers are becoming more powerful, easier to use and cheaper—and all this is having an impact on boats and how they are operated. Perhaps the most dramatic development is the ability to integrate all the electronics (position, speed and depth sensors, engine and operating data, weather and winds, and charts) into clear and usable displays. In the last PRYCA Newsletter, the consequences of misuse of these capabilities (grounding of a cruise liner near Boston) was described. How about all this for the boats we actually own and operate—recreational boats, not directly supported by some business? In particular, I hope some of the computer “experts” (those who understand the PC world) will provide some comments on the utility of various software packages and their own experiences. One of the major issues is how to present all the data that are available—do you need a special chart display, does every system need a separate display, what do you do if you already have a radar dis-

play (or if you don't have one), is it better to use a computer; in short, what sort of display and processor makes sense?

Chart plotters are one possibility. With the arrival of the Global Positioning System (GPS), chart plotters which show both a chart of the area (color or monochrome) and your vessels location are becoming more available. A recent article lists eight different manufacturers with prices ranging from \$1,750 to \$5,995. (Clearly, your boat has become an even more efficient absorber of all the spare funds you can find!) At the same time, the price of laptop computers has dropped, and software is available to accept and display all kinds of boat information, including charts, navigation and ship's status. Systems now available include dedicated PCs, displays and shock-mounted compact disk drives (you cannot use this system for any other purpose, and it is expensive to buy and install). More attractive for use aboard boats are software applications and interfaces which can be installed in laptop computers and still allow the computer to be used for other applications; these use floppy disks and avoid the requirement for shock mounts, etc. In the future, some information on these software packages and their utility may be included; comments from people who have tried these applications would be particularly helpful.

Another application for on-board computers is performing general home office functions, so that you can keep up with business activities and other interests while you are out on your boat—not too important, perhaps, for short day trips, but useful capabilities for live aboards or extended cruises. These capabilities depend on communications, but cellular telephone and other systems make continuous link-

age possible. How many of our club members are doing this and how well do they work? (There are some pretty impressive computing machines on boats, but others claim that only shock-mounted, marinized systems are usable away from the dock.) Perhaps these notes will generate some interest and comments which can be shared with others.

From A MAL

Steve Wexler

The PRYCA End of Summer Party at Tantallon Yacht Club started to look like a re-creation of Water World. First, the diving competition in the travel-way by "A" Dock was actually referred to as a canoe race. Little did the organizers know!! The Occoquan Yacht Club team of Dave Moore and Tim Chaffin got off to a speedy start in their heat. Unfortunately, as they often say in golf...good speed, but the direction was a little off. Actually, their aim was a lot off—right into the first couple of boats directly to the right of the start line. They seemed to correct quickly—that is, until they hit the next boat, and the next boat, and the next boat...right on down the line. Actually it was less of a race and more of the Bumper Boats ride we all try to avoid on the River. Anyway, they did finally make the finish line, when Chaffin, emulating one of his heroes, Captain Tommy C. (as in "Oh where oh where can my Nikon be??") took a short step to the pier...missed and into the water. Steve Donock and I, watching this fiasco, figured we had to be better...we were, we won, but still got drenched by the inveterate team of Commodore Sandy (as in "Fun Index") Leathers and PC Schmedley (Oh you mean in the boat...not the water) Rhodes. Then it was on to the dunking tank, which was

being run by Tantallon's own Della. You know, it's funny—I'm not totally sure what yours truly ever did to Ms. Della, but she seems to have a vivid memory about some French Dinner night at Tantallon where I seem to have closely investigated her French maid outfit—something about a hands-on inspection. I guess she must have enjoyed it to have remembered the incident so well!! Anyway, back to the tank where Commodore Sandy Bozutto released pent-up aggressions of twenty years, by mortgaging Leather's farm and putting me into the water about 20 times. She kept using some phrase about "drowning rats." Obviously I never did notice that it was raining...the rain was drier than I was. The PRYCA owes a special thanks to Tantallon Yacht Club for a job well done...with a particular note of appreciation to Commodore John Ludwig and Life Member Bud Clark.

I have truly enjoyed my year as a Member-at-Large on the PRYCA Board...but duty calls at OYC and I will be stepping down. To say that Monica Lovell of OYC can adequately fill my shoes would be a total understatement. I certainly wish Monica and the rest of the very talented and competent list of incoming Board members good luck for the next year...PRYCA's 25th anniversary. I stand ready to assist Commodore Penny DeMarco when called upon. I will continue to assist RC Steve Donock in the coordination of next year's PRYCA Float-In...let's hope for slightly cooler weather but the same warmth of friendship and participation that we enjoyed this year.

I hope each of you has an enjoyable holiday season and a happy and prosperous new year. And I look forward to seeing all of you at the PRYCA Change of Watch Dinner/Dance in January.



From Another MAL

Steve Donock

New Boating Skills & Seamanship Course Offered By The US Coast Guard Auxiliary

After several years in development, the 11th edition of the popular Coast Guard Auxiliary course, *Boating Skills & Seamanship (BS&S)*, is now available. There are several changes in the course. Some of the highlights:

Improved organization. The 11th edition text is outlined by section headings, subsection headings, etc., to clarify and organize the text. The headings facilitate lesson planning for the instructor and make the presentation easier for students to follow.

Two core courses. People are already familiar with the two types of classes offered by the Auxiliary. The "short" course and the "long" course. The "core" course has been redesigned to apply to boaters in our area. Also, you will see more consistency between area Flotillas in what subjects are included in the "core" class.

Return to matched and multiple choice questions. In response to overwhelming feedback, questions in the Student Study Guide have been revised to matching questions (the "roots" in the left column and the "completions" in the right) and multiple choice questions.

Reader friendly. The 11th edition has been designed for a 7th grade reading level. This does not mean that the concepts and content have been watered down. Rather, it means that the choice of words and sentence length have been selected to increase ease of reading. Families bringing children to the course will appreciate this change.

New information. Throughout, new information has been added and obsolete material has been deleted (remember the slide in the radio chapter with the telephone handset/microphone?). New topics include alcohol in gasoline, carbon monoxide poisoning, electronic aids to navigation, EPIRBs, GPS, and Personal Watercraft.

This is just a sampling of what's new with the course. The letter to Auxiliarists outlining the changes to the course was 10 pages long! Remember, this is an almost entirely new BS&S. I really think you'll like it!

For more information about the new BS&S class, or about the Coast Guard Auxiliary, please contact me.

From the Editor

Ned W. Rhodes

Let me be the first to congratulate the 1996 Board on their elections. And, let me be the first (but not the last) to thank the 1995 Board for all their hard work. By all accounting, we had a most successful year in terms of growth and member club participation.

I have been following a number of club newsletters and each seems to have "Frost Bite" or last cruise of the year. What is interesting is that each club has a different idea as to when the frost is supposed to come. One club does their Frost Bite cruise in the middle of October. Well, our club was out that Columbus Day weekend and although it got cold, we did not get any frost. But, we did get a lot of river fog which looks so beautiful as it swirls around on the water. Most of the Frost Bite cruises seem to take place in November, when there is a real chance to have frost. Occoquan Yacht Club closes out the year with our Hardy Souls cruise to Old Town over Veteran's Day weekend and the weath-

er has been warm some years, cold other years and snowy only a few times. I say, whatever the weather, it is always nice to be out on the water.

Since I saw my first TV commercial with Santa Claus just this week, let me try and be the first to wish everyone a happy holiday season and I hope you all have good weather for winterizing your boat. See you at the Change of Command in January. I wonder if we will have snow for that evening?

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association Board Meeting Mt. Vernon Yacht Club Monday, 11 Sept. 1995

Present:

Vice Commodore:	Penny DeMarco
Rear Commodore:	Bud Clark
Secretary:	Ineke Lavoie
Treasurer:	Harriet Douglas
IPC:	Ned Rhodes
PC:	John Robey
MALs:	Mark Viehoever, Steve Donock and Steve Wexler

Absent:

Commodore:	John Hancock
Fleet Captain:	Darrell Edgar

The meeting was called to order by VC DeMarco at 6:10PM.

Old Business

-Secretary and Treasury reports were accepted as printed and read.

-RC Clark commented on "End-of-Summer" party at Tantallon Yacht Club Sept. 16-17, and the slow response TYC has received from member clubs so far, i.e., TYC had not heard from Aquia, Capital, District, Eastern and PWYC; Delegates are requested to expedite input for their yacht clubs.

Approx. 38 boats and 140 people had registered so far. Motion was passed for PRYCA to pay \$300 for tip to band.

-MAL Viehoever mentioned that Dave Wright of The Wright Touch has agreed to play at January 96 Change of Watch for the same price as paid at '95 Float-In.

-MAL Wexler gave detailed float-in report, and particularly expressed his thanks to VC DeMarco for all her help.

-IPC Rhodes mentioned the October 20 deadline for newsletter submission.

New Business

-VC DeMarco presents revised By-Laws, and received further input from Board; it was decided to make position of Fleet Captain an elected one, and RC Clark suggested that Flag Officers cannot be Delegates, but OK to be Alternative Delegate(s). VC DeMarco will incorporate all changes, and present it for a vote at Oct. 2. Board Meeting, and present to Delegates at November 6 Delegate Meeting at Capital YC.

-IPC Rhodes met with D'Este Richardson at White Point YC; suggestion was made since WPYC is so far south, whether a possible Southern subdivision of PRYCA could be established, south of the Rte 301 bridge for example. WPYC will be sponsored by Occoquan.

-MAL Wexler informed Quantico YC Commodore that, no, PRYCA is not a PAC.

-Sec. Lavoie mentions she received papers from Comm Hancock regarding PRYCA Incorporation Status, which will be filled out and submitted to D.C. Government.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40PM until the next Board Meeting

Monday, Oct. 2 at Washington YC at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ineke Lavoie, Secretary

**Potomac River Yacht
Clubs Association
Delegates Meeting
Mt. Vernon Yacht Club
Monday, 11 Sept. 1995**

Club Delegates Present:

District:	Jack Scott
Ft. Washington:	Pinkney Little
Landmark:	Charlie Wilkerson
Mt. Vernon:	Jim Ball
National Potomac:	Ineke Lavoie, Alt.
Occoquan:	Steve Donock
Tantallon:	Bud Clark, Alt.
Washington YC:	Mark Viehoever

Clubs Absent:

Aquia
Capital
Colonial
Eastern
Marinette
Prince William
Seafarers

The meeting was called to order at 8:00PM by VC DeMarco, who thanked MVYC for their hospitality in letting us use their facility.

-Secretary & Treasury reports were accepted as read and printed.

-Delegates introduced themselves.

-MAL Steve Wexler gave detailed report on very successful '95 Float-In, with 115 boats, 271 adults and 7 children attending. Charlie Wilkerson of LYC, and Jim Ball of MVYC provided valuable Delegate input, especially requesting more in-advance notice to Club Delegates. MAL Viehoever suggests possible availability of group dis-

count rates at nearby Ramada Inn for those not coming by boat to the Float-In.

-RC Clark mentioned the Jan. 27, 1996 Change of Watch at Old Colony Inn, which will be PRYCA's 25th anniversary. Delegate suggestions as to how to make this a memorable event are requested.

-VC DeMarco details proposed revisions to Constitution and By-Laws, and hopes to have it voted upon at Nov. 6 Delegates Meeting at Capital YC. She also mentioned that at recent CBYCA Board meeting Nicole Larson, CBYCA's State Legislative Director for Virginia brought up the following issues:

1) Wallop Breaux safety funds are in for 1996, with both a House and Senate version.

2) CBYCA Delegate from Poquosan YC (Tidewater area) indicated that Virginia boat sales tax, which had been going into general funds, will now be assigned to go directly into funds for safety issues.

3) a Member Committee has been established to help prioritize "to do's" for Woodrow Wilson Bridge repair.

-MAL Wilkerson mentioned that CBYCA was selling whistles for one's boat tank telling you when it's full. BOAT/US did a survey and decided against selling them, since they tend to come apart; he also indicated that Coast Guard boardings have gone up dramatically, from 392 in 1994, to over 2,000 in 1995.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM till next Delegate Meeting, Monday, November 6 at Capital YC at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ineke Lavoie, Secretary

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association
Treasurer's Report
Sept. 11, 1995

Beginning Balance		\$7,774.92
Deposits:		
8/4/95, Interest	\$ 30.10	
9/8/95, Checks made out to PRYCA instead of TYC for End of Summer Party)	<u>967.00</u>	
Total Deposits		997.10
Deductions:		
8/4/95, Service charge	\$ 21.95	
8/7/95, Copies	47.55	
8/7/95, Shirts/hats	848.78	
8/7/95, Old Colony Inn (deposit)	500.00	
8/16/95, Burgees	337.71	
8/24/95, Trash removal	270.09	
9/1/95, TYC for End of Summer Party	967.00	
9/8/95, Postage	32.00	
9/8/95, Alex. City Marina	46.00	
9/9/95, Incorporation fees	<u>165.00</u>	
Total Deductions		<u>3,236.08</u>
Ending Balance		\$5,535.94

Respectfully submitted,
Harriet Douglas, Treasurer

**Potomac River Yacht
Clubs Association**
Board Meeting
Washington Yacht Club
Monday, 1 Oct. 1995

Present:

Commodore:	John Hancock
Vice Commodore:	Penny DeMarco
Rear Commodore:	Bud Clark
Secretary	Ineke Lavoie
Treasurer:	Harriet Douglas
Fleet Captain:	Darrell Edgar
IPC:	Ned Rhodes
PC:	John Robey
MALs:	Steve Donock Mark Viehoever Steve Wexler

The meeting was called to order by
Comm Hancock at 6:30PM.

Old Business

-September Secretary's minutes were accepted with correction regarding proposed By-Laws, i.e., that RC Clark did not suggest that Flag Officers could be Alternate Delegates; all Board Members except Flag Officers can fill this function.

-Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

-RC Clark reported that final participatory count at "End of Summer" party was 46 boats and 160 people; the event was financially solvent, and he'll draft a letter to TYC for Comm Hancock to sign.

-There was discussion on the proposed By-Laws revisions, and VC DeMarco will present them for vote at Nov. 6 Delegates Meeting at Capital YC. A handbook is also being prepared for Board's use.





New Business

-MAL Wexler, chair of the Finance committee, issued its report which was discussed in great detail. Motion to increase annual club dues from \$45 to \$60 was passed with 6 yes votes, 2 no votes and 1 abstention. MAL Wexler will present Finance Report at the Delegates Meeting explaining the reasoning behind the suggested fee increase, the first one in PRYCA's 25-year history.

-VC DeMarco received membership application from Quantico YC and reviewed their by-laws. There will be a vote on their membership at the Nov. 6 Delegates Meeting.

-Comm Hancock will write letter to White Point YC after the Nov. 6 meeting.

-Sec Lavoie reported that PRYCA Incorporation Papers were submitted to the D.C. Government Tuesday, Sept. 19. Subsequently advised on Oct. 3 that PRYCA Incorporation status is in place.

-FC Edgar:

1) showed the new PRYCA pins, which will be available for sale at \$5.00 each at Nov. 6 Delegates meeting.

2) will write letter introducing PRYCA to VA Marine Resources, MD Dept. of natural Resources, and D.C. Harbor Police.

-RC Clark's motion to nullify previously passed motion for dues increase was turned down with 5 no, 2 yes votes and 2 abstentions.

-The Nominating Committee, chaired by IPC Rhodes with PCs John Robey, Howard Gasaway and Finance Committee member Jane Sullivan, presented the slate for the 196 PRYCA Board of Directors, which will be printed in the Newsletter.

-RC Clark will publish 1996 PRYCA events calendar, and is looking for input.

-IPC Rhodes will write Newsletter article on status of Wallop-Breaux safety funds; please note Oct. 20 deadline for submitting newsletter articles!

The agenda for the Nov. 6 Delegates meeting at Capital YC was discussed, and the following items will be on the agenda: Votes on (1) proposed 1996 Slate of Officers, (2) annual membership dues, (3) proposed new Constitution and By-Laws, (4) membership application of Quantico YC; and the Jan. 27 1996 Change of Watch at Old Colony Inn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35PM until the next Board Meeting on Monday, Nov. 6 at Capital YC at 6:00PM, followed by Delegates meeting at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ineke Lavoie, Secretary

Global Positioning System (GPS)

From USCG WWW Site

WHAT is GPS?

GPS is a satellite-based radionavigation system developed and operated by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD). When fully operational, GPS will permit land, sea, and airborne users to determine their three-dimensional position, velocity, and time 24 hours a day, in all weather, anywhere in the world with a precision and accuracy far better than other radionavigation systems available today or in the foreseeable future.

GPS consists of three segments: space, control, and user.

The Space Segment, when fully operational, will consist of 24 operational satellites in six circular orbits

Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association

Treasurer's Report

October 2, 1995

Beginning Balance		\$5,535.94
Deposits:		
9/7/95, Interest	\$ 20.22	
9/16/95	<u>522.50</u>	
Total Deposits		542.72
Deductions:		
9/7/95, Service charge	\$ 10.72	
9/11/95, Tantallon YC	522.50	
9/11/95, Pizza	14.00	
9/11/95, TYC Band	300.00	
9/11/95, Newsletter	39.71	
9/14/95, Burgees	<u>116.96</u>	
Total Deductions		<u>1,003.89</u>
Ending Balance		\$5,074.77

Respectfully submitted,
Harriet Douglas, Treasurer



20,200 km (10,900 nm) above the earth at an inclination angle of 55 degrees with a 12 hour period. The satellites will be spaced in orbit so that at any time a minimum of 6 satellites will be in view to users anywhere in the world. The satellites continuously broadcast position and time data to users throughout the world.

The Control Segment consists of a master control station in Colorado Springs, with five monitor stations and three ground antennas located throughout the world. The monitor stations track all GPS satellites in view and collect ranging information from the satellite broadcasts. The monitor stations send the information they collect from each of the satellites back to the master control station, which computes extremely precise satellite orbits. The information is then formatted into updated navigation messages for each satellite. The updated information is transmitted to each satellite via the ground antennas, which also transmit and receive satellite control and monitoring signals.

The User Segment consists of the receivers, processors, and antennas that allow land, sea, or airborne operators to receive the GPS satellite broadcasts and compute their precise position, velocity and time.

The GPS concept of operation is based upon satellite ranging. Users figure their position on the earth by measuring their distance from the group of satellites in space. The satellites act as precise reference points.

Each GPS satellite transmits an accurate position and time signal. The user's receiver measures the time delay for the signal to reach the receiver, which is the direct measure of the apparent range to the satellite. Measurements collected simultaneously from four satellites are processed to

solve for the three dimensions of position, velocity and time.

HOW is it used?

GPS receivers collect signals from satellites in view. They display the user's position, velocity, and time, as needed for their marine, terrestrial, or aeronautical applications. Some display additional data, such as distance and bearing to selected waypoints or digital charts.

WHO uses it?

GPS is used to support land, sea, and airborne navigation, surveying, Geophysical exploration, mapping and geodesy, vehicle location systems, and a wide variety of additional applications.

WHAT'S THE STATUS of the GPS?

The Global Positioning System has reached Initial Operational Capability (IOC). What this means to the GPS user is discussed in U.S. Federal Radionavigation Plan.

WHEN will GPS be Fully operational (FOC)?

The Department of Defense plans to complete the system and declare it fully operational in 1995.

THE STANDARD POSITIONING SERVICE

GPS will be provided at two levels of service—a Standard Positioning Service (SPS) for general public use and an encoded Precise Positioning Service (PPS) primarily intended for use by the Department of Defense. SPS signal accuracy is intentionally degraded to protect U.S. national security interests. This process, called Selective Availability (SA), controls the availability of the system's full capabilities. The SPS accuracy specifications, given below, include the effects of SA.

SPS provides accuracies of (for position, the accuracy with respect to geographic, or geodetic coordinates of the Earth) within: 100 meters (2 drms) horizontal 156 meters (2 Sigma) vertical 300 meters (99.99% prob.) horizontal 340 nanoseconds time (95% prob.). SPS Coverage is continuous and worldwide, with a position dilution of precision (PDOP) of 6 or less.

Global Positioning System **Fully Operational**

News Release, July 17, 1995

The Air Force announced today that the Global Positioning System satellite constellation has met all requirements for Full Operational Capability. FOC status means that the system meets all the requirements specified in a variety of formal performance and requirements documents.

This declaration signals the culmination of more than 20 years of research, development and implementation activities that brought the revolutionary navigation system from concept to reality. The program was created by the Department of Defense in 1973. The first GPS satellite, a Block I developmental model, was launched in February 1978.

"This is a major milestone," said Air Force Vice Chief of Staff General Thomas S. Moorman Jr. "GPS has become integral to our warfighters and is rapidly becoming a true utility' in the civilian community," he concluded.

The first launch of operational (Block II) GPS satellite in February 1989, marked the beginning of steady progress toward a full constellation of 24 satellites. That milestone was achieved in June 1993 and Initial Operational Capability was declared later that year. FOC marks the successful completion of Department of



Defense testing of the 24 Block II satellites now in orbit and confirmation of their operational capabilities.

The system gained fame during Desert Storm by providing unprecedented navigational accuracy for allied air and ground forces, but it is rapidly being integrated into a wide variety of civilian uses as well according to Maj. Gen. Robert S. Dickman, director of Space Programs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition. "GPS is a model for dual-use systems," said General Dickman. "It's both a force multiplier for the warfighter and a boon to the civilian sector."

GPS, operated by the 2nd Space Operation Squadron of the 50th Space Wing at Falcon Air Force Base, Colo., is a U.S. Department of Defense radionavigation system. It provides highly accurate, real-time, all-weather position, velocity, and time information to properly equipped air, land, sea and space-based military and civilian users around the world. For more information, contact Air Force Space Command Public Affairs (719) 554-5285.

FCC Lowers License Fee for Marine Radios by \$50 **Soundings, Sept. 1995**

Starting in September, the cost to license a marine radio will drop from \$115 to \$75, good news for boaters who have seen their VHF fees nearly triple in the past few years.

The not-so-good news is that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) could change the fees again as early as next year, and a bill in Congress that would eliminate the licensing requirement entirely has gone nowhere since its introduction in February.

"Reducing the fee to \$75 is a small step in the right direction," says Michael Sciulla, government affairs director for the Boat Owners Association of the United States. "This is still a substantial amount to pay for a device which recreational boaters use primarily to call for help, listen to weather forecasts or hear another's call for assistance. For the safety of those going out to sea, Congress should simply get rid of the fee."

The fee, which changed Sept. 18, breaks down into two parts: a \$45 application fee and a \$30 user fee, says Terry Johnson, an FCC program analyst. It buys a 10-year license, the minimum available.

The FCC is required to review the application part of the fee every two years and the user fee part every year.

Until 1994, the actual license to operate a marine radio was free, though boaters since 1990 had paid a \$35 processing fee for a five-year license. But in 1993, Congress passed legislation requiring the agency to collect user fees to cover its administrative cost.

The agency began charging boaters an annual \$7 user fee for the license, and made it a 10-year mandatory license, paid up front. The \$35 processing fee went up to \$40. The charge later went up another \$5.

Since then, boating advocates have argued that the fee has become a safety issue. Since it costs as much as some VHF's, many boaters, they say, would rather go without a radio than pay for the license.

Ironically enough, the FCC agrees. For the past several years, the agency has pushed for legislation that would enable it to "license by rule," meaning it could issue a blanket license to recreational boats not required to carry a VHF. Boaters would still have to abide by the rules, and the FCC would have

authority to penalize them for violations, but they would receive no individual ship's license and pay no fee.

Legislation to that effect reached Congress last year in the form of an amendment to the FCC's authorization bill for 1995. Despite congressional and FCC support, the authorization bill stalled and died in the Senate.

In February, Reps. Jack Fields, R-Texas, and Bart Stupak, D-Mich., introduced a bill that would give the FCC power to license by rule for marine radios. Though the bill has strong support from boating advocates, as of late July it remained in the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Finance, where it has been since late February. Fields is chairman of the subcommittee.

Johnson says, based on the FCC's annual user fee review, the license fees could change again next year. Factors included in such a review are how many full-time-equivalent employees are assigned to that licensing category and estimated number of licenses the agency will issue.

Happy Anniversary, **Wallop-Breaux!!** **Aquatic Resources Trust Fund** **Celebrates First Decade of** **Service** **On The Waterfront, Oct. 1995**

In July of 1984, President Ronald Reagan signed into law the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund, which expanded the popular and highly effective Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950. Moneys collected under the new fund—commonly known as Wallop-Breaux, after its chief Congressional sponsors, former U.S. Senator Malcolm Wallop (R-WY) and U.S. Senator (then-Congressman) John Breaux (D-LA)—began flowing to anglers and boaters

on October 1, 1985, and there is much evidence that the program has been an enormous success in the ten years since. We salute this success and remind readers that cooperative and creative efforts between outdoor enthusiasts and government can produce startling results.

How It Works

The Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950—commonly referred to as the Dingell-Johnson Fund, after its chief Congressional sponsors—imposed a 10% manufacturer's excise tax on sport fishing gear. The revenue raised from this tax was dedicated to the restoration of sport fisheries across the country, a goal the federal government met by providing matching funds to state fisheries programs utilizing fishing license revenues.

The amendments that created Wallop-Breaux increased the tax base of Dingell-Johnson by including additional fishing equipment not previously taxed by imposing new customs duties on imported yachts and pleasure craft and by transferring to the new fund federal motorboat fuel taxes. These changes increased the amount of money available to the states from \$38 million to \$122 million in a single year.

Wallop-Breaux consists of two separate accounts: the Sport Fish Restoration Account, which is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Boating Safety Account, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. The fund now generates some \$300 million per year and is a true example of a "user-pay, user-benefit" program: the money from these accounts directly benefits the sporting men and women who pay the taxes in the first place.

Boating Safety Dollars

Submitted by NBF Vice
President Jim Webster.
September 1995 Chartroom Chatter

With respect to the Wallop-Breaux taxes collected from boaters, the Coast Guard Appropriations Bill, HR 2002, contains \$20 million for Boating Safety for FY 96. This, together with the \$10 million in the Clean Vessel Act, will make up the total boaters safety program for FY 96. This bill acts as a safety net by providing current funding for this coming year, but there is still an annual process. This bill also passed in the House of Representatives only; there are zero boating safety dollars in the Senate version. The Conference Committee may choose either version or some compromise in between. At this time, we urgently need to tell members of the House-Senate Conference Committee that we want the House version (\$20 million) of the Wallop-Breaux BOATING SAFETY funds to prevail.

Legislators from CBYCA areas who are involved in the appropriation process are: Rep. John P. Murtha (D-PA, phone 202-225-2065); Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA, phone 202-225-5135); Rep. Bud Shuster (R-PA, phone 202-225-2431); Rep. Joseph McDade (R-PA, phone 202-225-3731); Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD, phone 202-225-4131); Rep. Thomas M. Foglietta (D-PA, phone 202-225-4731); Sen. Arlin Specter (R-PA, phone 202-224-4254); Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD, phone 202-224-4654); and Rep. Rodney P. Frelinghuysen (R-NJ, phone 202-225-5034).

HR 1361 and S 1004 are Coast Guard authorization bills. S 1004 has a permanent fix to the authorization problem, while HR 1361 does not. Again, a conference committee could

add the permanent authorization fix to the final bill. While the Coast Guard prefers this solution since it adds \$20 million to their budget in FY 96, this solution seems less likely to succeed. However, in addition to contacting those concerned with the appropriations bill HR 2002 above, it is suggested you express your concerns to those on the authorizations committees. Legislators from CBYCA areas involved in this process are: Rep. Herbert Bateman (D-VA, phone 202-225-4261); Rep. Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD, phone 202-224-5311); and Rep. Robert A. Borski (D-PA, phone 224-8251).

Remember, these are boaters tax dollars: we pay annual taxes which are to be dedicated to our benefit. Our vigilance is all that can ensure we receive that benefit. Those Congressmen who want to reduce boating safety expenditures don't want to reduce our taxation. It's your lives at stake, not theirs.



PRYCA Activities Calendar September 1995 - March 1996

> This revised calendar for the end 1995 and early 1996 lists planned PRYCA and member club activities known to us as of the date of publication. Information on other marine events (e.g., boat shows) is included for planning.

> All member clubs are invited to provide highlights of their planned activities (opening days, major events, etc.) for incorporation into future editions of this calendar. Calendar information should be given to R/C Bud Clark at 703/780-7135.

> Input deadlines for the PRYCA Newsletter also are shown. Send newsletter articles and notes to IPC Ned Rhodes at 703/534-2297.

• November 1995

- Sat, 4th 1:00pm, National Potomac Yacht Club—Oyster Roast
- Mon, 6th 6:00pm, PRYCA Board Meeting, at Capital Yacht Club
7:30pm, PRYCA Delegates Meeting, at Capital Yacht Club

>> Topic: Election of PRYCA Officers for 1996;

>> Speaker: Bob Gaudette, MD DNR – Sat, 11th Aquia Harbour Y—Fall

Ball & Change of Command 703/659-0764

- Sat, 18th 10am—4pm Tantallon Yacht Club Craft Sale 301/292-0840

• December 1995

- Sat, 2nd Tantallon Yacht Club—Holiday/Christmas Party 301/292-8226- Sat, 2nd
- Occoquan Yacht Club—Ball 703/425-1994 – Sat, 2nd Aquia Harbour YC—
- Christmas Party 703/659-0764 – Mon, 6th 7:00pm, PRYCA Board
- Meeting, at Seafarers Yacht Club

- Sat, 9th District Yacht Club—Christmas Party 202/543-9788 – **Sat, 9th** *in*
7:00pm Waterfront Washington - Parade of Boats & Lights
Washington Channel; Party at Capital Yacht Club

- Sat, 16th 7:00pm National Potomac Yacht Club—Change of Watch Ball at Pier 7
- Sat, 16th-23rd Seafarers Yacht Club—Christmas Social 301/292-9373

• January 1996

- Mon, 8th @ 6:30pm, PRYCA Board Meeting at National Potomac Yacht Club (Tentative)
- * Fri, 26th @ Input Deadline for February PRYCA Newsletter
- **Sat, 27th** **7:00pm PRYCA Change of Watch Dinner-Dance** **at**
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Alexandria, VA

• February 1996

- Mon, 5th @ 6:00pm, PRYCA Board Meeting at Capital Yacht Club (Tentative)
- 7:30pm, PRYCA Delegates Meeting, at Capital Yacht Club (Tentative)
- >> Guest Speakers: TBD
- >> Special Guests: Newsletter Editors—PRYCA Clubs (Tentative)
- *Wed, 14th - Mon, 19th 12noon - 10pm Washington Boat Show, Convention Center*

• March 1996

- Mon, 4th 6:30pm, PRYCA Board Meeting, at District Yacht Club (Tentative)
- * Fri, 22nd Input Deadline for April
PRYCA Newsletter

You are cordially invited to
the
Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association's
1996 Change of Watch Dinner-Dance

- When:** Saturday, 27 January 1996
- Where:** Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites
625 First Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
- Time:** Cocktails: 1900 to 1945
Dinner: 1945 to 2045
Change of Watch:: 2045 to 2115
Dancing & Socializing: 2115 to ??
Band: The Wright Touch
- Entré Selections:**
- Roast Beef
Queen Cut with Natural Au Jus
 - Chicken Alexandria
Baked Breast with Apple Pecan Stuffing
 - Grilled Flounder
Grilled to Perfection with Lemon Sauce
- Dress:** Winter Uniform or Business Suit
Black Tie Optional
- Cost:** \$40.00 per Person
Cash Bar

Reservations: Make Reservations through your PRYCA delegate, to:
PRYCA Secretary Ineke Lavoie, telephone (703) 243-6933
1600 North Oak Street, #1610, Arlington, Virginia 22209

- **Dinner-Dance Reservations** with Payment must be provided to PRYCA by Monday, 8 January 1996. Cancellations after 15 January 1996 are subject to full fare.
- **Room Reservations** are available for those who wish to spend the night. Contact Holiday Inn & Suites at (703) 548-6300 and ask for the special PRYCA rate. Reservations must be made by 6 January 1995; a deposit must be made for rooms to be held past 6pm.

2800 BRILLINGTON ROAD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22208
(703) 884-7121

3410 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22204
(703) 424-2020

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Med W. Rhodes, CEO
President

Software Systems Group



Upcoming Events

- Dec 6: PRYCA Board Meeting @ Seafarers 7:00
- Jan 8: PRYCA Board Meeting @ NPYC 6:30
- Jan 26: Deadline for November PRYCA Newsletter
- Jan 27: PRYCA Change of Command 7:00



Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association



1600 N. Oak Street, #1610
Arlington, VA 22209

Address Correction Requested